



U.S.P.S. EXPRESS MAIL 'POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE' SERVICE
DEPOSIT INFORMATION

Express Mail Label No.: EV 906814524

Date of Deposit: December 21, 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Foster ET AL.

Appln. No.: 10/617,580

Filed: July 11, 2003

For: Flexible Cannula

Attorney Docket No: 10922-51

Examiner: Charles H. Sam

Art Unit: 3731

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and more particularly in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), Applicants hereby cite the following reference(s):

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME
4,960,410	10/1990	Pinchuk
5,843,050	12/1998	Jones et al.
5,961,510	10/1999	Fugoso et al.
6,102,890	8/2000	Stivland et al.

Applicants are enclosing Form PTO-1449 (one sheet), along with a copy of each listed reference for which a copy is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2). As each of the listed references is in English, no further commentary is believed to be necessary, 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3). Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's consideration of the above reference(s) and entry thereof into the record of this application.

By submitting this Statement, Applicants are attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other

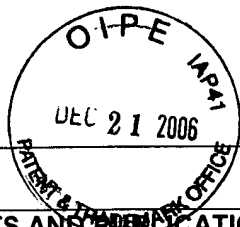
information referred to therein, constitutes "prior art" or is otherwise "material to patentability," as that phrase is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

Applicant has calculated no fee to be due in connection with the filing of this Statement. However, the Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency associated with the filing of this Statement to a deposit account, as authorized in the Transmittal accompanying this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

12/21/2006
Date

Stephen C. Smith
Stephen C. Smith (Reg. No. 56,250)



FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/617,580	CASE NO. 10922-51
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	FILING DATE July 11, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT 3731
APPLICANT(S):		Foster et al.

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	B1	4,960,410	10/1990	Pinchuk		
	B2	5,843,050	12/1998	Jones et al.		
	B3	5,961,510	10/1999	Fugoso et al.		
	B4	6,102,890	8/2000	Stivland et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS (Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.